

CONFIDENTIAL]

[No. 21 of 1885.

REPORT

OF

NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 23rd May 1885.

CONTENTS:

	Page.		Page.
The English Government and India	... 687	Mr Campbell, the Judge of Rajshahye	... 697
England, Russia and Afghanistan	... ib.	The prayers of the people	... ib.
Russia and England	... ib.	The proposed Agricultural Department	... ib.
Russia	... ib.	The Tenancy Act	... ib.
Meanness of the Lion	... ib.	Reduction of expenditure	... 698
Native princes	... ib.	The Agricultural Department	... ib.
Proposals for peace	... 688	Government and the distress in the Province	... ib.
The heroism of Sir Peter Lumsden	... ib.	The Attorneys and a cheap court for the trial of petty	... ib.
England and Russia	... ib.	interests in land	... ib.
Maharajah Dhuleep Singh	... ib.	The Santipore Municipality	... 699
Enquiry about the loyalty of Indians	... 689	The Station Master of Khurdah	... ib.
The prospects of peace	... ib.	Reduction of expenditure	... ib.
The Pioneer exposed	... ib.	The Original Side of the High Court	... ib.
The troops of the Native Princes	... ib.	Lord Dufferin and the enrolment of natives as volunteers	ib.
The Queen of Madagascar	... ib.	The best tax	... ib.
Difficulties of England	... ib.	A European volunteer	... 700
The prospects of peace	... 690	Colonel Plowden	... ib.
England and Russia	... ib.	The distress in Beerbhoom and Bancoorah	... 701
Prospects of peace	... ib.	The Public Works Department Accountantship examina-	...
Benefits that will be derived from peace	... ib.	tion	... ib.
Lord Ripon and the loyalty of natives	... ib.	Native soldiers	... ib.
Independent Tipperah	... ib.	Famine in Rampurhat	... ib.
India and European powers	... 691	The Flotilla Company	... 702
France and England	... ib.	Famine in Jagannathpore	... ib.
Prospects of peace	... ib.	Distrust of natives	... ib.
Lord Dufferin's peace policy	... ib.	Advocacy of the cause of natives by-Englishmen and	...
The Boundary Commission	... ib.	reverence of Indians for the English	... ib.
English policy towards Russia	... 692	The Octroi duties	... ib.
Russia and England	... 693	The cost of war with Russia	... ib.
A Russian Consul in Calcutta	... ib.	The Lieutenant-Governor and reduction of expenditure	ib.
England and Russia	... ib.	Lord Dufferin and the enrolment of natives as volunteers	703
The Soudan war	... ib.	Distress in Khargram	... ib.
The armies of the Native Princes	... 694	The Collector of Burdwan	... ib.
The records of the Burdwan courts	... ib.	The amalgamation of the Calcutta and Suburban	...
The road cess on lakheraj lands	... ib.	Municipalities	... ib.
Natives and the English	... ib.	Cattle pounds in the mofussil	... ib.
Distress in Burdwan	... ib.	The Agricultural Department in Bengal	... ib.
The famine	... 695	Cholera and scarcity	... 704
The Lieutenant-Governor's sudden arrival in Calcutta	... ib.	Scarcity of water in Dhamasin	... ib.
The distress in Burdwan	... ib.	The want of a registration office in Balia Kandi	... ib.
Fire in Mymensingh and the Viceroy	... ib.	Natives as volunteers	... ib.
An Agricultural Department in Bengal	... ib.	Natives as volunteers	... ib.
The prevalence of dacoities	... 696	The Native Press	... ib.
Increase of Military expenditure	... ib.	The Police	... 705
The Maharajah of Durbhunga	... ib.	The Salaries Commission	... ib.
The famine	... ib.	The Sikh soldiers sent to Egypt...	... ib.
The famine in Beerbhoom	... ib.	Anonymous communications	... ib.
The volunteering movement	... ib.		

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
ASSAMESE.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
1	"Assam Vilásini"	Sibsagar ... ..	.....
2	"Assam News"	Ditto	450	
BENGALI.				
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
3	"Sansodhini"	Chittagong	700	
4	"Purva Darpan"	Ditto ... ..	.....
<i>Weekly.</i>				
5	"Ananda Bazar Patriká"	Calcutta	700	18th May 1885.
6	"Arya Darpan"	Ditto	102	15th ditto.
7	"Bangabási"	Ditto	12,000	16th ditto.
8	"Bhāratbāsi"	Ditto ... ..	.....
9	"Bhārat Mihir"	Ditto	625	14th ditto.
10	"Bardwān Sanjivani"	Burdwan	296	5th and 12th May 1885.
11	"Chāruvārtā"	Sherepore, Mymensingh	529	11th May 1885.
12	"Dacca Prakāsh"	Dacca	425	17th ditto.
13	"Education Gazette"	Hooghly	800	15th ditto.
14	"Grāmvārtā Prakāshikā"	Comercolly	500	16th ditto.
15	"Hindu Ranjikā"	Beauleah, Rajshahye	200	
16	"Musulman Bandhu"	Bhowanipore, Calcutta ... ..	.....
17	"Murshidābād Patriká"	Berhampore	437	
18	"Murshidābād Pratinidhi"	Ditto ... ..	.....
19	"Navavibhākar"	Calcutta	850	18th ditto.
20	"Paridarshak"	Sylhet	440	
21	"Patākā"	Calcutta ... ..	.....	15th ditto.
22	"Prajā Bandhu"	Chandernagore	900	15th ditto.
23	"Pratikar"	Berhampore	600	
24	"Rungpore Dik Prakāsh"	Kakinia, Rungpore	220	14th ditto.
25	"Sādharaṇī"	Calcutta	500	17th ditto.
26	"Sahachar"	Ditto	500	13th ditto.
27	"Samaya"	Ditto	1,500	18th ditto.
28	"Sanjivani"	Ditto	4,000	16th ditto.
29	"Saraswat Patra"	Dacca	345	
30	"Som Prakāsh"	Changripottā, 24-Pergnas	1,000	18th ditto.
31	"Sulabha Samāchār"	Calcutta	3,000	9th and 16th May 1885.
32	"Surabhi"	Ditto	700	19th May 1885.
<i>Daily.</i>				
33	"Dainik"	Calcutta ... ..	.....	18th to 22nd May 1885.
34	"Samvād Prabhākar"	Ditto	225	15th to 21st ditto.
35	"Samvād Purnachandrodaya"	Ditto	300	16th to 21st ditto.
36	"Samachār Chandrikā"	Ditto	625	14th to 19th ditto.
37	"Banga Vidyā Prakashikā"	Ditto	520	16th and 19th to 21st May 1885.
38	"Prabhāti"	Ditto	1,000	16th to 22nd May 1885.
HINDI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
39	"Kshatriya Patriká"	Patna	400	
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
40	"Chumparun Hitakari"	Bettia ... ..	.....
<i>Weekly.</i>				
41	"Behar Bandhu"	Bankipore ... ..	.....
42	"Bhārat Mitra"	Calcutta	1,500	14th May 1885.
43	"Sār Sudhānidhi"	Ditto	500	4th ditto.
44	"Uchit Baktā"	Ditto	300	16th ditto.
45	"Hindi Samāchār"	Bhagulpore	700	
PERSIAN.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
46	"Jām-Jahān-dum"	Calcutta	250	
URDU.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
47	"Gauhur"	Calcutta	100	
48	"Sharaf-ul-Akhbar"	Behar	250	
<i>Bi-weekly.</i>				
49	"Akhbar-i-darusaltanat"	Calcutta	340	
<i>Daily.</i>				
50	"Urdu Guide"	Calcutta	365	15th and 16th May 1885.
URIYA.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
51	"Taraka"	Calcutta ... ..	.....
52	"Shikṣābandhu"	Ditto ... ..	.....	May 1885.
53	"Iradip"	Ditto ... ..	.....	Ditto.
<i>Weekly.</i>				
54	"Utkal Dipikā"	Cuttack	200	2nd May 1885.
55	"Utkal Darpan"	Balasore	116	5th ditto.
56	"Balasore Samvad Vāhikā"	Ditto	205	30th April 1885.
57	"Sebaka"	Cuttack	200	6th May 1885.

POLITICAL.

The *Sár Sudhánidhi*, of the 4th May, says that the English Government distrusts Indians because it is a foreign Government, and because there was a rebellion in India. It is true that rebellion naturally makes Government distrust the people, but it should be considered whether there was not ample cause for rebellion on the part of the people. If Government weakens the people by disarming them, it also becomes weak. Indians are now so weak that they will fly away at the approach of a foreign enemy. If that takes place the English Government will be a Government without subjects. If Government does not enrol natives as Volunteers, Russians will think that it fears natives. Government should enrol such natives as Volunteers as are in a position to purchase arms and to pay for their uniforms.

SAR SUDHANIDHI,
May 4th, 1885.

2. The same paper does not approve of the Afghan policy of Government. It says that Government should make such arrangements as will enable it to send troops upon the slightest sign of Afghan treachery to Kandahar, and thus to prevent the advance of Russia towards the Indian frontier.

SAR SUDHANIDHI.

3. The *Sulabh Samáchar*, of the 9th May, says that, in spite of all the shortcomings of the English Government, it is more powerful and more righteous than the Russian Government. England is better qualified for ruling India than Russia. A comparison of Russian haughtiness and aggression with English forbearance and distaste for bloodshed has increased the writer's regard for the English Government. But in spite of all his partiality for England, the writer cannot help praising Russia in one respect, namely, for the liberal policy of her administration. It is this policy alone which has enabled Russia in spite of all her faults to extend her empire. Russia appoints the natives of every country it conquers to all high posts, civil and military, in that country. The Russians are utilizing the martial spirit in the conquered countries to their own advantage. They have very little to think for the defence and government of the country. The writer is sorry that in this respect the policy of England is not so liberal. How many natives of India are there who have been appointed Majors and Lieutenants in the Indian army? The natives cannot even dream of becoming Generals or Governors. The writer hopes that the authorities will enhance the glory of England by removing these faults and shortcomings.

SULABH SAMACHAR.
May 9th 1885.

4. The *Charu Vartá*, of the 11th May, says that the thirst of empire of the Russians is not likely to be removed except by hard blows. Russia is taking time. Her resources have been exhausted by the late Russo-Turkish war. The Nihilists are corroding into her vitals. Still she spares no pains to gain her object. As the matter now stands, Russia is not likely to stop without putting the English to serious trouble.

CHARU VARTA,
May 11th, 1885.

5. The same paper says that the meanness of England in suspecting the natives, in enacting the Vernacular Press law, and withholding from them the privilege of enrolment as Volunteers, has made the editor very sorry. The English have proclaimed that they will make no distinction of caste, colour or creed, but they never keep their word. The English consider Bengalis weak, but still they fear them. The Viceroy admits that Bengalis are loyal, but still they are not allowed to wear even a sword.

CHARU VARTA.

6. The same paper agrees with Sir Lepel Griffin in saying that the armies of native princes are so undisciplined that they do not deserve the name of armies.

CHARU VARTA.

The Native Princes did not hesitate to place the armies of their States at the disposal of the English. Are the Native Princes still to be accused of disloyalty.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
May 12th, 1885.

7. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 12th May, says that this is not the time for the English to engage in a war with Russia, for in the case of a war they will be great losers in respect to their commerce. The disadvantages of England in carrying on a war on the frontiers of Afghanistan are very great. Russia will get everything from her own territories, while England will have to carry everything from India, while it is not known which side the Afghans will favour. Though the Amir has been handsomely paid by the English still he does not venture to allow an English army to pass through his kingdom. This shows that the Afghans are not friendly to the English. On a consideration of all these circumstances, the writer cannot help being delighted at the prospect of a peaceful settlement.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI.

8. The same paper says that no sooner did the news of the defeat of the Afghans reach the camp of Sir Peter Lumsden at Gulran than he left it, and that he did not stop till he reached Tirpul, which is 160 miles from the Russian camp, and which appeared to him to be a place of security. England sent this excellent hero to face the Russian Bear. He has preserved the prestige of England admirably indeed.

SAHACHAR,
May 13th, 1885.

9. The *Sahachar*, of the 13th May, says that people will come to understand in time what a great service Mr. Gladstone has rendered to England, and the whole British Empire by not engaging in a war with Russia. If what newspapers say is true the people of England are eager for a war with Russia. The English soldiers are eager to disprove the statement that is often made to the effect that the heroism of the British soldiers has been buried in the field of Waterloo by measuring swords with the soldiers of a powerful European nation. As for the Anglo-Indian soldiers and officers, it is not mere by a desire to increase the glory of their country and hatred towards Russia, but also prospects of increased pay, booty and titles, and of providing for relatives by giving them employment which make them desire for a war with Russia. The ruler who can keep his head cool when the whole nation is clamouring for war is no ordinary person. The writer has always said that for the Government to go to the Oxus for fighting with Russia would be to court danger. That defeat there would lead to annihilation is sufficiently proved by the plunder of Sir Peter Lumsden's camp by the Afghans. The writer is glad that Lord Dufferin has understood this. The Amir also holds the same view. It will be advantageous to Russia if the English advance to attack Russians. The Russians may retreat backwards if defeated. But will the English pursue them as far as the Caspian? War in a place where the enemy cannot, after they have been defeated, be prevented from flying and destroyed is useless. War should not be conducted in a place where fighting depends upon the desire of the enemy. If the English fight with Russians in Central Asia, blood will be as uselessly shed as in the Soudan. Because the French fought in a disadvantageous place they had to perish amidst Russian snows. For this reason also the English have not yet been able to crush the Mahdi and Osman Digma. It is impossible for Afghanistan to maintain its freedom. The question is, who is to occupy it, England or Russia? The friendship of the Afghans has no value.

BHARAT MITRA,
May 14th, 1885.

10. The *Bharat Mitra*, of the 14th May, says that Government should justly decide about the claims preferred by Maharajah Dhuleep Singh.

11. The same paper says that several Englishmen should be sent to Enquiry about the loyalty of Indians. enquire independently of the Foreign Department under the Government of India about the feelings of Indians. If this is not done, it will not be well either for England or India.

BHARAT MITRA,
May 14th, 1885.

12. The *Rungpore Dik Prakash*, of the 14th May, is very glad to notice that both the Queen-Empress and the Premier are anxious for peace, and that the Czar too has agreed to refer the matter in dispute with England to arbitration. The writer admires the patience of Mr. Gladstone. He prays to God that this terrible war may be averted. But if Russia refuses to abide by the award of the arbitrator, the English will be compelled to make war, for she has already strained her forbearance to the furthest point.

RUNGPORE DIK
PRAKASH,
May 14th, 1885.

13. The *Prajá Bandhu*, of the 15th May, says that when the Khedive stopped the circulation of the *Bosphore Egyptien*, and the French asked for an explanation from him and threatened him, the *Pioneer* abused the French and said that anything said to the Khedive had been said to the English, that the English were a powerful nation, and that the French could not expect to say anything to the English with impunity. Now the Khedive has asked forgiveness of the French. Is not this tantamount to the English asking forgiveness of the French? The Lion of the *Pioneer* draws in his tail.

PRAJA BANDHU,
May 15th, 1885.

14. The *Patáká*, of the 15th May, says that the Native Princes are all loyal to Government. Sir Lepel Griffin has rightly said that there is no reason for apprehension even if they are not loyal. Though the number of their combined troops is very large, Government need not be alarmed at this. The troops are ill trained, and the arms with which they are furnished are worthless. The English Government will not be injured, but will on the contrary be benefited if it gives the troops of the Native Princes a good military training. The English Government's distrust of the Native Princes is not in accordance with a high order of statesmanship.

PATAKA,
May 15th, 1885.

15. The *Arya Darpan*, of the 15th May, is loud in praise of the Queen of Madagascar for trying her best to put an end to the distillation of spirits in her kingdom. The writer contrasts her conduct in this respect with that of the civilized English Government, which is deluging the country with spirits by introducing the outstill system.

ARYA DARPAN,
May 15th, 1885.

16. The *Bangabasi*, of the 16th May, says that this is a very inauspicious year for England. She is becoming unsuccessful in everything she undertakes. She has been greatly embarrassed with the Soudan war. All the loss of men and money in the Soudan proves vain. General Wolseley disappointed is said to be coming to India, leaving the Soudan to its fate.

BANGABASI,
May 16th, 1885.

England was never before so greatly humiliated as she has been in Central Asia. No sooner did the Russians pursue the English, than they fled away in hot haste. Such a spectacle is new to the English. The writer is very sorry at the humiliation of England. For what reason did England bear all these insults at the hands of Russia? There must be a cause. It may bring about good in future. The present humiliation of England may result in her future glory.

She has been insulted by France also. She stopped the publication of a French paper in Egypt named the *Bosphore Egyptien*. The French

Minister took up the cause of the newspaper and assumed a hostile attitude towards Egypt, Turkey and England. The paper was then allowed to be published.

These events have lowered England in the eyes of the people of India, of Asia, nay of the whole world. But this state of things will not last long. The Lion is now fast asleep; when roused from sleep he will fill the world with his roars.

BANGABASI,
May 16th, 1885.

17. The same paper says that the war appears to be averted for the present. This is good news indeed. But the peace now established is not likely to be permanent.

URDU GUIDE,
May 16th, 1885.

18. The *Urdu Guide*, of the 16th May, says that, unless the movements of both England and Russia are watched for some time longer, it is not possible to judge of the results of the impending war. But the writer believes that England will be able to march her troops earlier than Russia.

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA,
May 16th, 1885.

19. The *Grāmavartā Prakāshikā*, of the 16th May, is glad to notice that both the Empress of India and the Emperor of Russia are anxious for a peaceful solution of the present difficulties. The writer hopes that they will succeed in bringing about a lasting peace.

SADHARANI,
May 17th, 1885.

20. The *Sādhārani*, of the 17th May, says that the prospect of peace even if it should prove short-lived is welcome to Indians, inasmuch as they will be ruined if war takes place in this year of scarcity. Russia has probably consented to the proposal for peace because she could not make preparations for war. Because the writer considers the occupation of India by Russia to be injurious, he desires that the English should have sufficient time for preparations for defence. Indians will also derive another benefit from peace even if it be temporary. If there be peace, a vast sum of money will not be spent at once, but gradually, for preparations for war. A new tax will not perhaps have to be imposed for this. Peace is not yet certain, inasmuch as the Czar has not yet given his assent to the terms of peace settled between the English Cabinet and the Russian Ambassador.

SADHARANI.

21. The same paper says that Lord Ripon has praised the loyalty shown by Indians to the British Government at this time of danger. The writer expressed sorrow because the *Englishman* and the *Pioneer* were paining the hearts of Indians by needlessly distrusting them. He is glad at the praise of native loyalty by Lord Ripon, and remarks that English dominion in India will not be at an end so long as England produces sons like Lord Ripon.

SADHARANI.

22. The same paper says that one can see, from the Administration Report, how it is that the Prime Minister of the Tipperah State could not improve its condition. The Administration Report says:—"But the Council appears to have been appointed to act as a check on his (the Prime Minister's) actions." The report says that "the Commissioner * * * proposed a greater concentration of power in the hands of the Prime Minister and the abolition of the Executive Council and the office of the Secretary." The writer cannot say whether the State will be benefited or injured by the adoption of the Commissioner's proposal. But the Maharajah of Tipperah should think why Government is making such a proposal. The writer requests that the Maharajah and his heir should not be self-forgetful, but try their best to improve the condition of the State.

23. The same paper says that though India is now without food or money, foreign nations still consider her a land of gold. Most of the great powers of the earth

India and European powers.

are eager for the occupation of India. Russia is the foremost of such powers. Russia has long coveted India, and she has now arrived at its gate. Frightened at the power of Russia the proud English are anxious for peace. But most statesmen are of opinion that the peace will not prove lasting. Sooner or later England will have to engage in a war with Russia. Who can also say what other European powers intend to do? The writer thinks that sooner or later India will become a battlefield, where two great European powers will fight for dominion. Indians, who are now weak and disarmed will be completely incapable of defending themselves. So long as Government does not give them arms and a military training, their uneasiness of mind will not be removed. The English will probably have to repent for disarming natives.

24. The *Samaya*, of the 18th May, is sorry to think of the insult offered by France to England on the subject of stopping the *Bosphore Egyptien*. The

France and England.

English are insulted everywhere. This goes to show that the time of the present Ministry is over, and that it will soon go out of office. The writer asks, who will repair the loss of the prestige of England? When the prestige of a nation is once lost it can be regained with difficulty.

25. The *Navavibhakar*, of the 18th May, says that peace is almost certain. Neither England nor Russia will disregard the arbitration of the King of

Prospects of peace.

Denmark. It does not appear that the English will derive any benefit from the fixing of a boundary of the Russian Empire in Central Asia. The apprehension that Russia will upon the first opportunity cross the boundary so fixed will always remain in the minds of the English. But the apprehension may diminish if they can remain on friendly terms with the Afghans and garrison the North-Western frontier of India. Russians have lost the sympathy of the Afghans by fighting with them at Ak Tapa. The more the Afghans become hostile to Russia, the better for the English Government. Russians will never be able to enter India without the support of the Afghans. The Amir will now garrison Herat with the assistance of the English. When all parties are interested in the maintenance of the peace, there is no probability of its disturbance.

26. The same paper says that Lord Dufferin does not probably desire that the English should advance into Central Asia in order to arrest the advance of Russia.

Lord Dufferin's peace policy.

He only desires to strengthen India by garrisoning the North-Western frontier. He knows that the fact that England has been over-reached by Russia in Central Asia has not lowered her prestige among Indians, who are lovers of peace. Indians heartily support Lord Dufferin's peace policy.

27. The *Ananda Bazar Patrika*, of the 18th May, says that Sir Peter Lumsden has failed to do what he was sent to do, and that it would not have

The Boundary Commission.

been easy for him to escape with impunity if there had been now in the English Parliament men like those who denounced Clive and Hastings as impersonations of misdeeds. In attempting to settle matters quietly with Russia, he has brought matters to the point of war. In attempting to bring the Afghans under control, he has in a manner made enemies of them. In attempting to lay the foundation of England's glory and authority, he has destroyed both. The writer does not know who is responsible for the Panjdeh fighting but he is of opinion that, judging from what has transpired, if Sir Peter Lumsden had been a dutiful and skilful officer, he would not have allowed the fighting to take place, that he did not dissuade

SADHARANI,
May 17th, 1885.

SAMAYA,
May 18th, 1885.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
May 18th, 1885.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
May 18th, 1885.

the Afghans from fighting, that in fact he incited the Afghans at every step. Colonel Yate met the Russian General on the evening preceding the battle, and was distinctly told by the latter that if the Afghans did not retire from the position they had taken up there would be fighting. Still he did not dissuade the Afghans from fighting. That this was not done is because General Lumsden and the other officers aimed not only at establishing English influence in Afghanistan and Central Asia, but at demonstrating that England considers Russia of no account. This explains the telegram received long before the conflict that General Lumsden had ordered the Afghans to make an armed opposition in the event of Russia making an unjust advance, and that is probably the reason why the Colonel did not prevent the Panjdeh conflict. General Lumsden and his staff apparently thought too highly of English power and too meanly of the prowess of Russia, and that is why they precipitated affairs in such a way as led to the Afghan defeat at Panjdeh, as well as to the humiliation to which they had to subject themselves after the Panjdeh conflict by seeking the protection of the Russians and the Afghans. The miserably ludicrous spectacle which was presented by the cowardly flight of the Mission was witnessed by Afghans, Turkomans and others.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
May 18th, 1885.

28. The same paper says that the English Government can adopt three policies in regard to Russia:—1st, going to the Afghan frontier to oppose Russian

progress; 2nd, not going to the Afghan frontier itself, but making the Amir do so to check the Russian advance; and 3rd, to check Russian progress on the Indian frontier, not minding whether or not Russia comes into Afghanistan. Anglo-Indians and most English Conservatives are in favour of the first course. The Premier is in favour of the second. He thinks that Russia may be allowed to take those places on the Afghan frontier where the Amir's sovereignty does not exist, for it would be troublesome and would not lead to any convenience to fight about those places. It was upon this view that he appointed the Delimitation Commission. Another reason why he prefers this course is that he knows that British troops cannot be safely sent into Afghanistan. The sending of an army into Afghanistan may be impolitic in another way. Suppose that a British army is in Afghanistan, and Russia thereupon withdraws her troops from the Afghan frontier. The British army may in that case have to remain waiting in Afghanistan for the Russian advance. But if the Russians do not advance, the British army will have to come back after sometime. And then if Russia advances, the British army must again go, Russia will again retire, and the English army after again waiting for some time must again return, and so on. All this must be very harassing. It is for these reasons that the Premier is in favour of the second course. He wishes that the Amir should retain only those places where he would be able to make his authority felt, and he would accordingly make over other places to Russia, but in a manner which will prevent the Amir from feeling such concession to be compulsory and lead Russia to understand it in the light of a magnanimous gift on the part of the Amir. The Premier expects two good results to follow from the adoption of this course:—1st, the probability of the Amir being able to strengthen and organize the part of Afghanistan which will remain in his possession after making the concession to Russia, and 2nd, the pledging Russia not to cross a definite frontier line. If this arrangement is made, the Premier thinks that, with British aid in the shape of money and arms, the Amir will gradually become so strong that Russia will not be able to easily effect an entrance into Afghanistan, and that even if Russia can enter, she will become exceedingly weakened by the time she reaches the Indian frontier, and will thus be powerless to fight England. The writer thinks that the

course adopted by the Premier is not faultless, and that the Premier himself probably knows it. The success of the arrangement which he would make will depend upon the Amir's fidelity to the British Government. But the Amir is a barbarous ruler, and English officials themselves say that the Afghans are a faithless people, so the Amir may play alternately with England and Russia, or he may be tempted to go over to Russia by receiving back from the latter the places which he will now make over to her. The consequence of such infidelity on the part of the Amir will be disastrous to the British Empire. The writer therefore considers the third course to be the best. The Premier also probably understands this, but he would be probably cut to pieces by Anglo-Indians and Conservatives if he were to adopt that course. The writer goes on to say, however, that the adoption of that course is only a question of time, and will prevent Russia from coming to India at any time. Nature has made the Indian frontier impregnable, and only a slight endeavour on the part of the rulers will make that frontier absolutely safe; and within India are lakhs of people who can meet any foe and slay any enemy. If the Indians are justly ruled, and if the English rulers increase instead of destroying their prowess, it will not be necessary for England to bring soldiers from any other place for the defence of India.

29. The same paper says that many will perhaps blame Englishmen, just as they are being blamed by a Russian newspaper, because they have abandoned the Afghans after inciting them to fight with Russia. This reproach has been brought upon England only through the faults of General Lumsden and Colonel Yates.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
May 18th, 1885.

The Editor refers to the remark made by the *Pioneer* that, as Russia has made one of her Mahomedan subjects a General in her army, so the British Government has appointed a Mahomedan of India to the Bench of the High Court of the North-Western Provinces. The Editor observes that the two cases are not analogous. Government is indeed conferring many high posts upon the Indians, but why does it hesitate to permit them to enrol themselves as Volunteers?

30. The *Som Prakāsh*, of the 18th May, referring to the contemplated stationing of a Russian Consul in Calcutta, says that, if an able man is sent for that purpose, both England and Russia may be greatly benefited.

SOM PRAKASH,
May 18th, 1885.

31. The same paper says that Russia has offended England by her attempts to extend her dominion in Central Asia. Russia did not tell anything when England extended her dominion in India. It is true that Russia had no right to do so; but the English too have no right to interfere with the extension of Russian dominion in Central Asia. Had Russia interfered with the extension of English dominion at every step as England has done in the case of the extension of Russian dominion, a war would have long before this taken place. Had England repeatedly called for such explanations for the extension of its dominion from France or Germany as it has done from Russia, she would have received a proper reply. That a war has not so long taken place is due to the forbearance of Russia. Mr. Gladstone's control over his feelings and keen-sightedness also are deserving of great praise. Had not Mr. Gladstone been the Premier, war could not have probably been averted.

SOM PRAKASH.

The Soudan War.

unjust Soudan war.

32. The *Surabhi*, of the 19th May, thanks Mr. Gladstone for desisting from the

SURABHI,
May 19th, 1885.

SURABHI,
May 19th, 1885.

33. The same paper says that, in the series of articles on the troops of the native princes which appeared in the *Times* a few months ago, the writer expressed apprehension that the native princes were not loyal. The Editor is glad that Sir Lepel Griffin, as the highest political officer in India, has contradicted that writer and said that the native princes are truly loyal. Sir Lepel has said that he is acquainted with more than one hundred native princes, and that he knows their feelings very well. Sir Lepel has said that three-fourths of the number of the present native princes owe their dignity to the English Government, and it is not probable that they are dissatisfied with it. The English Government is also being benefited by the troops of the native princes who are doing the work of the police. The writer hopes that the English Government and the English people will remember the enthusiastic reception of Lord Ripon by natives, and the danger in Central Asia, and rely upon the words of Sir Lepel Griffin.

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
May 5th, 1885.

34. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 5th May, says that the Magistrate of Burdwan has passed an order, to the effect that the pleaders and muktears will not be allowed to look into the records of cases. Consulting the records is absolutely necessary for these men, because it is not always convenient to take copies. If the pleaders are allowed to consult records, not only do the parties, but even the courts, derive great assistance. There is no prohibition in the law to consult records. In Civil Courts the pleaders consult records in order to be able to examine witnesses. But in Criminal Courts the questions are those of life and death. Criminal cases are very difficult to conduct, and if the pleaders are debarred from seeing the records, the parties will greatly suffer for the want of proper examination of witnesses.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI.

35. A correspondent writing to the same paper from Ichapore draws the attention of the authorities to the oppression practised by talukdars with respect to the collection of road cess on lakheraj lands. They assess the lands according to their whims, and collect the cess on the strength of that assessment. They assess even small plots of lands measuring 10 cottas only. The poor people do not understand the purport of the law, and they cannot make their grievances known to the authorities.

The writer hears that in certain places the talukdars are collecting the Road and Public Works cesses at the rate of four pice per rupee.

CHARU VARTA,
May 11th, 1885.

36. The *Cháru Vártá*, of the 11th May, says that, not only should the natives of all classes unite, but even the English should, instead of wholly depending upon their bayonets, heartily unite with natives. Had not the native princes befriended the English during the Sepoy mutiny, the British Empire in India would have been a thing of the past. The united forces of the British Empire and of the native princes saved India at that time, and without such a union of forces there is no escape from the present crisis, or from its evil consequences.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
May 12th, 1885.

37. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 12th May, publishes an article communicated to it, in which the writer says that he cannot describe what he has seen with his own eyes. Females of respectable families are in such a wretched plight that their miseries melt even hearts of stone. They have been obliged to throw aside their habitual modesty. No sooner did the writer appear in the courtyards of their houses than all the females, old and young, flocked before him. With the want of food and clothing, plagues, malaria

and fires have made their appearance. These united are ruining the people. When Government has not yet taken any steps in the matter of famine relief, it is vain to hope anything from that quarter. A foreign Government cannot realise the distress of the respectable middle class in this country.

38. The delegate of the *Burdwan Durbhiksha Nivarini Sabha*, writing for the fourth time to the same paper, says that only three families out of 150 in Kisore-

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
May 12th, 1885.

The Famine.

kona have some provision in their houses. Other families are all on the same level of distress. The oldest people in the village say that the productive power of the land has decreased since the construction of the Railway which has stopped the natural drainage of the locality.

The condition of Jaykrishnapur is still worse. The zemindar, Baboo Gossain Das Kundu, is a very kind-hearted man. He has stopped the collection of rent, and has made advances to his ryots. Three families of *goalas* and one family of Aguri have some paddy with them, but 246 families have nothing to eat. The result of a house-to-house enquiry shows that none of these have a *chhatak* of rice. The low class people are in great want, but there is no *annachhatra* near at hand, and they get no work. The writer thinks that an *annachhatra* should be opened here as soon as possible. In that case the people of 11 villages will be greatly benefited. The scarcity of water is great in this village. The water that is to be had here appears to be blue.

In Pilgan, a small village of 55 families, the *goalas* only have some provision with them. The other families who belong to the gentlemen's class are in great want.

Vilvagram is inhabited by 100 families of agriculturists, of which three families only have a year's provision. The low class people are in great distress. If an *annachhatra* be opened here, people of nine neighbouring villages will be able to resort to it.

The delegate has visited 40 villages in the Budbud and in the Sahebgunge thana; but he is sorry to say that in none of these did any help come from any other quarter than the Burdwan Durbhiksha Nivarini Shabha.

39. The *Sahachar*, of the 18th May, says that many persons say that the Lieutenant-Governor has come down from the hills because secret preparations for war will be made everywhere. But will it not transpire why the Lieutenant-Governor has come to Calcutta?

SAHACHAR,
May 18th, 1885.

The Lieutenant-Governor's sudden arrival in Calcutta.

40. The same paper says that Government is gradually becoming alive to the distress in Burdwan. Mr.

SAHACHAR.

The distress in Burdwan.

Coxhead's efforts for the relief of the distress are commendable. If every official makes similar efforts, the distress may be easily put an end to. The editor requests the public to give donations, and Government to make without delay necessary arrangements for the relief of the distress. If delay is made in making the arrangements the people will be ruined.

41. The *Bharat Mihir*, of the 14th May, is glad to notice that amidst the multifarious and arduous duties which engage Lord Dufferin's attention at the present moment, His Excellency has found time to enquire about the recent great fire in Mymensingh and the means whereby the sufferers may be relieved.

BHARAT MIHIR,
May 14th, 1885.

Fire in Mymensingh and the Vice-roy.

42. The same paper is glad to find that an Agricultural Department has at length been established under the Government of Bengal. The people were beginning to get disappointed when they found that the successful native students of the Cirencester Agricultural College were being employed as statutory Civilians and Deputy Magistrates instead of being entrusted

BHARAT MIHIR.

An Agricultural Department in Bengal.

with work calculated to improve native agriculture. It was, however, fortunate that Sir Rivers Thompson was anxious to provide Baboo Ambika Charan Sen and the other successful agricultural scholars with suitable employment. His Honor has been long anxious to establish an Agricultural Department under the Bengal Administration, and the delay that has taken place in inaugurating the measure has been due to the fact that he has had to obtain the necessary sanction of superior authority. The Editor thanks the Lieutenant-Governor for the interest His Honor has shown in the matter of agriculture, the improvement of which is probably the first duty of the Government. The fact that the soil of Bengal is the most fertile, while the Bengal peasant undergoes the pinch of chronic famine, is solely due to his ignorance of the laws of scientific agriculture and the apathy of Government.

ARYA DARPA,
MAY 15TH, 1885.

43. The same paper complains of the prevalence of theft and gang robbery in spite of the vigilance of Government and of the police. Only the last

Wednesday a gang of dacoits plundered the house of the Acharyas of Belur which is only a few miles from Calcutta.

SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
May 15th, 1885.

44. The *Samachar Chandrika*, of the 15th May, says that, if the English increase, through fear of Russia, the military expenditure of India, the country will

be ruined. Discontent among the subjects is not for the good of the rulers

SULABH SAMACHAR,
May 16th, 1885.

45. The *Sulabh Samachar*, of the 16th May, cannot help praising the Maharajah of Durbhunga for his sympathy with, and his good feeling towards his ryots. To

relieve those who have lost their property by fire, he has given Rs. 4,000, and he has promised to subscribe Rs. 5,000 more when the subscription book comes to him.

SULABH SAMACHAR.

46. A correspondent writing to the same paper says that the condition of the villages visited by him is extremely wretched and heart-rending. The earthen

vessels in every hut are empty and are full of cobwebs. Boys and girls of 10 to 12 years of age remain in a state of complete nudity. Ghastly men and women cover themselves with stinking rags full of insects. They live in ruined huts full of nauseating foul smell. In none of the villages visited by the writer is there a thatch completely covered with *khur* or hay. Famine is everywhere attended by pestilence. There is not a day in which 10 to 12 men are not carried off, even from small villages, for want of medicine and proper diet.

BANGABASI,
May 16th, 1885.

47. Baboo Shamlal Mukerji, writing to the *Bangabasi*, of the 16th May, says that the low class people and respectable agriculturists of Moureshvara,

Aral, Rambhadrapur, Kamra, Lokra, Podda, Kanda, Loharjan, Kalikapur, Bhatgor, Ramsundarpur and Namkedara in thana Ramporehat are in great want. About 25 per cent. of the men are living on half rations, and about 12 per cent. are living sometimes on one meal a day and sometimes on none. Sixteen families of Mochies, ten of Haris and four of Doms, out of a total of 60 families in the village of Gadadhurpur, are in want. The people of Namkedara are suffering greatly because of the failure of the paddy crop. The whole population of Gourbazar, about 400 souls, and of Kotgan, 600 souls, are in want. These two villages are inhabited by Mahomedans. The suffering is nowhere so great in this neighbourhood as in these villages. They should be relieved without any loss of time. Out of a population of 800 souls, about a hundred families of Haris are in great want in Shonja. About 75 per cent. of the inhabitants of several of the villages in the Ramporehat thana are in want. In every village four or five families only have a stock of provision, but others have not even a handful of corn with them.

48. The *Sanjivani*, of the 16th May, learns from a confidential source that the Government of India desires the admission of natives into the Volunteer Corps,

The Volunteering movement.

and that a resolution on the subject with the rules for enrolment will shortly appear in the *Gazette of India*. This concession will deepen the feeling of loyalty among the natives, and Lord Dufferin will be worshipped in every household in the same way as Lord Ripon.

49. The same paper says that Mr. Campbell, the Judge of Rajshahye, is in the habit of purchasing things without paying for them. Messrs. Ramsay, Wakefield and Company have sued him for Rs. 1,650

Mr. Campbell, the Judge of Rajshahye.

in the Calcutta Small Cause Court. Mr. Campbell being a high officer, thought perhaps of getting his clothes free of cost.

50. The same paper says that an attempt was made by men like Sir FitzJames Stephen during the Ilbert Bill agitation to prove the proclamation of 1858 to

The prayers of the people.

be an unmeaning and illegal document, and also to poohpooh, by means of sophistry, the idea of pledges given to the people of India. Do not these attempts constitute a blot upon English character? The native rival the English in their own country and in their own tongue. Why then should they be regarded as inferior to Englishmen? The English have educated the natives for a century. The natives have learned from the English to love freedom. This is sure to produce good results. It is vain, at this stage, to stifle the aspirations roused in the native mind by high education. To satisfy these aspirations would be for the good both of the English and of the natives. The English have for a long time taught the doctrine of equality to the natives. It would be difficult now to remove the impression produced by this teaching. The grant of self-government only in name will not do. It has become necessary to introduce self-government in reality. The Legislative Council should be reorganized. The principle of election should be introduced in the selection of native members. The Councils should have the power of interpellation. Everyone knows how the opinions of the native members are respected by Government. If the native members be given the power to criticise the action of Government and its officers, they may confer a great benefit upon the people.

51. The *Grāmavartā Prakāshikā*, of the 16th May, thanks the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal for proposing to establish an Agricultural Department in Bengal. The writer thinks that the

The proposed Agricultural Department.

establishment of the department will bring to prominent notice the evils of the Tenancy Act, which the writer has attempted in vain to point out to Government.

52. The same paper says that the Tenancy Act has not fixed the rate of rent either at one-fourth or at one-fifth of the produce. The raiyats will henceforth have

The Tenancy Act.

no rights. They will not be able to transfer their holdings. The zemindar will be able to enhance rents at his will; he will first enhance the rents of his poor tenants who are in no position to go to Court, and then induce some of his substantial raiyats to accept the enhancement granted by the Court. The evil effects of this process of enhancement will be very great. The members of the Legislative Council should have taken all these facts into consideration. The Act is not desired either by zemindars or by tenants, and still it will produce ill-feeling between these two classes of men. The Bill should have been shelved. Though this is written by an agriculturist, still Lord Dufferin and Sir Rivers Thompson would have done well to think deeply on these questions. The writer is greatly disappointed at the fact that the first act of Lord Dufferin has been of such a nature.

SANJIVANI,
May 16th, 1885.

SANJIVANI

SANJIVANI.

GRAMVARTĀ
PRAKASHIKĀ,
May 16th, 1885.

GRAMVARTĀ
PRAKASHIKĀ.

DACCA PRAKASH,
May 17th, 1885.

53. The *Dacca Prakash*, of the 17th May, says that reduction of expenditure is possible in the following directions :—

- (1) The high salaries of administrative officers, such as the Viceroy, Governors and the Civilians, can be reduced with profit; for the causes which necessitated the granting of these enormous salaries, unprecedented in the world, have been removed.
- (2) If Government stores are purchased in India, much saving can be effected.
- (3) Much money is spent for providing the passed students of the Burki and Cooper's Hill Colleges with suitable appointments. The Native Engineers are at a discount. Though they can do all engineering work efficiently on a small pay, still high-paid European Engineers are entertained. If Government appoint able Native Engineers, the expenditure in the Public Works Department is likely to be much less.
- (4) Residence of high officials in the hills is very expensive and can be dispensed with.
- (5) Money paid by non-Christian tax-payers is spent in maintaining Christian Ministers; this is not just or reasonable. Nor is the maintenance of separate schools for Eurasians at an enormous cost proper.
- (6) If it becomes necessary to increase the number of men in the army, the number of native soldiers should be increased. This will be less expensive than increasing the number of European troops.
- (7) The natives make excellent judicial officers; the employment of natives in high judicial work is likely to reduce a good deal of expenditure.

DACCA PRAKASH.

54. The same paper does not understand why Mr. Finucane, who has no agricultural certificates, has been preferred to Mr. Allen, who has passed the Agricultural examination held at Cirencester as Director of the Agricultural Department.

SADHARANI,
May 17th, 1885.

55. The *Sádharañi*, of the 17th May, says that the Lieutenant-Governor, who is a devoted Christian and the eye of the Civilians, was indifferent to death from starvation in the Province. He could not believe that there was any distress, though it was clearly pointed out to him. Consequently the people did not obtain the help of Government, though it has been collecting taxes every year from some part of India or other for creating a famine fund. The heart of kind Hindus melted at the spectacle of this distress. They have done their best to relieve the distressed. The great achievement of the *Bangabási*, which has inaugurated a new era by not looking up to Government for help, but by inducing its countrymen to help the distressed at self-sacrifice will be for ever remembered. Government was deaf to the cries of distress owing to its eagerness for war. Nobody can say how much money will be spent for the gratification of that desire for war. It is not also certain that poor Indians who are famine-afflicted and ground down with taxation will not be saddled with these expenses.

SADHARANI.

56. The same paper learns that the Chief Justice consulted the Attorneys and other lawyers about the advisability of establishing a cheap court for the trial of petty interests in land in Calcutta. Will the Attorneys, asks the writer, who profit most by the trial of suits of the above kind in the Original Side of the High Court support the proposal for the establishment of a cheap court?

SADHAANRI,
May 17th, 1885.

57. A correspondent of the same paper says that there have been great improvements in the Santipore Municipality. Many roads have been constructed and repaired. The correspondent hopes that the municipality will repair the road in Ramnagarpara.

The Santipore Municipality.

58. Another correspondent of the same paper says that the authorities of the Eastern Bengal Railway have ruled that the station-masters of small stations will have to do the work of telegraph signallers also. Baboo Shamachurn Banerjea, who has long served creditably as station-master of the Khurdah station, as likely to be dismissed owing to this novel rule. The correspondent earnestly entreats the Railway authorities to do their duty by appointing Baboo Shamachurn to a suitable post.

The Station Master of Khurdah.

SADHARANIL.

59. The *Sambád Prabhákar*, of the 18th May, says that the Boundary Commission, the Pindee Durbar, and the preparations for the war, have already cost the Government several crores of rupees; though it is a matter of satisfaction to find that probabilities of a war with Russia are becoming less and less. The Viceroy has instructed the Provincial Governments to reduce expenditure, and Sir Rivers Thompson has come down from the hills at this hot season with a view to carry out these instructions. All proposed public works have been put a stop to. Lord Dufferin has acted wisely by ordering reductions on all sides; but the reduction should not consist in only sending away a few low-paid clerks. Much saving can be effected if attention is directed to the case of high-paid officers. The financial condition of India is becoming worse and worse daily, and the cry for reduction is becoming louder and louder. The salaries of Indian officers are the highest known in the world. But the conditions under which the high scale of salaries was fixed no longer exist, and it is therefore desirable that the scale should be revised. The Finance Minister, afraid of incurring the displeasure of his countrymen, does not venture to make reductions. Petty clerks only are sacrificed and public works are stopped.

Reduction of expenditure.

SAMVAD PRABHAKAR,
May 18th, 1885.

60. The *Navavibhákar*, of the 18th May, says that it is the duty of Government to distribute justice without charging anything for it. But it is a matter of deep regret that the English Government sells justice at such a high price, that those who seek justice from the Courts are ruined. The writer recommends that the work now done by the Original Side of the High Court in Calcutta should be done by Munsiff's Courts as in the mofussil, and that the Original Side should be abolished. The writer learns that the Chief Justice has called a meeting of some Judges, Barristers and Pleaders of the High Court to consider the question of the reduction of the cost of litigation in the Original Side. The writer says that Sir Richard Garth has done justice to his high office by calling this meeting.

The Original Side of the High Court.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
May 18th, 1885.

61. The same paper learns from a reliable source that Lord Dufferin is not reluctant to admit natives into the Volunteer Corps. He is glad at the eagerness shown by natives to help the English Government at this time of danger; but he has to be in a considerable measure guided by the views of his Council. The writer cannot say whether the old Anglo-Indians in the Council will support Lord Dufferin's noble views in this matter; but he prays to God that they may have the good sense to do so.

Lord Dufferin and the enrolment of natives as Volunteers.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

62. The *Ananda Bazar Patriká*, of the 18th May, says that a new tax has, according to the *Englishman*, become necessary. The question is, what that tax will be. The Anglo-Indians are overjoyed to hear that there will be no income tax; but the writer says that the Government has after all learnt

The best tax.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
May 18th 1885.

the right lesson, and Anglo-Indians themselves have at last understood that the British empire rests upon the fortunes of India. The writer therefore believes that the Government will abandon the one-sided administrative policy by means of which they have hitherto contributed only to the decline of India, and that Anglo-Indians also will endeavour to check their selfish instincts.

The Indians have been all along opposed to the war, and a war is only sought by the Anglo-Indians to gratify their own instincts of vanity. But it would not look well to make Indians pay money to enable Anglo-Indians to gratify their vanity. The writer does not see where the manliness of a war lies, in which all the dangers, losses, &c., will fall to the lot of Indians, and the Anglo-Indians will drink iced soda water, sherry and champagne. Indians are a poor people, and they will be unable to bear the burden of a war if that burden takes the form of an extended license tax. If war breaks out, a dreadful famine will appear in India, and as the rulers will be then busy about the war, the sufferings of the people in the shape of scarcity of food, widespread disease, robberies, oppressions of local officers, wanton conduct of Volunteers will know no bounds. So far from being able to pay a new tax, it will be difficult for the people of India to pay even the taxes which they are now paying. So if the rulers be in want of money for war, they should seek the help of England. England is on many accounts indebted to India, and she ought to help India at this time of her misfortune. If England be hard-hearted, then they who have grown rich with India's riches, and they who enjoy the happiness which India affords, but bear none of the troubles and hardships of her administration, ought to help her now. Not only the Indians, but also the Anglo-Indians, will suffer if the British empire suffers any loss. Probably the Anglo-Indians will suffer more loss than the Indians, and as all Anglo-Indians, and specially those among them who are servants of Government, are rich men, they ought to help the Government at this critical time. If an income tax is imposed, the burden of it will not fall exclusively upon the Anglo-Indians, but will be shared by the Indians also. A license tax, however, if imposed, will entail more hardship upon the poor than can be entailed upon the rich by an income tax. Many poor men may have to incur debt to pay a license tax, but if an income tax is imposed, the rich will not have to pay even so much as they spend every year upon feeding their dogs. It is not from any feelings of partiality for his own countrymen that the writer advocates the imposition of an income tax. He makes this proposal from a consideration of the good of the empire, and he trusts that whichever the tax that may be imposed the rulers will, before imposing it, take into consideration the lamentable state of the country.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
May 18th, 1885.

63. The same paper blames the authorities for according an undue lenient treatment to the European volunteer who wounded a native chowkidar at Lahore.

The defendant, although he has been committed to the sessions on a very grave charge, has been enlarged on bail. A native offender is never enlarged on bail under similar circumstances. It was expected that Government would act according to law in such cases, the more so as the offender was a volunteer, and as the Government was about to confer the right of volunteering upon all Europeans and Eurasians. The circumstance that the people are all very uneasy in their minds at the present time on account of the war should have led the authorities to act with impartiality in the case under notice.

64. The same paper refers to a letter in a recent issue of the *Statesman* newspaper, containing an account of the oppressions committed by Colonel Plowden.

the Deputy Commissioner of Saugor in the Central Provinces, upon one Gya Prosad Dobay, a wealthy zemindar of the place. It behoves the Colonel, remarks the editor, to clear himself from the charges brought against him by the writer in the *Statesman*.

65. The *Som Prakash*, of the 18th May, says that the cry of distress is still being heard from the famine-afflicted villages of Beerbhoom. The Indian Association and the Sadharan Brahmo Samaj are making great efforts to relieve the distress of the people. Why is Government indifferent to the distress of the people now that the war is over? The indifference of Government in this matter is really blameworthy. The cry of distress is being heard from Bancoorah also. It is gratifying to observe that this matter has been noticed in an official report.

SOM PRAKASH,
May 18th, 1885.

66. The same paper complains that candidates who have passed the Public Works Department Accountantship examination cannot obtain posts if a European of the lowest class comes forward with an application. The writer also complains that Bengalis are excluded from the posts of Examiner, Deputy Examiner, and Assistant Examiner, which are the monopoly of Englishmen.

SOM PRAKASH.

67. The same paper says that India, which is the mother of heroes, is gradually becoming devoid of them. At the commencement of British rule the English could obtain any number of soldiers. But since the time of the Sepoy mutiny it has become difficult for Government to recruit native soldiers. The reluctance of natives to enter the military service is due to many reasons some of which are given below :—

SOM PRAKASH.

- (1) Indians have now in a considerable measure lost their courage;
- (2) People can now live by engaging in agriculture or other peaceful occupations;
- (3) The salaries allowed to native soldiers and their prospects in the military service are not tempting enough to induce men to enter the military service, which is so full of hardships. The reluctance of natives to become soldiers is mainly due to the last-mentioned cause. The treatment which the sepoys received at the hands of the English Government at the time of the mutiny has made the public of India distrustful of it. For this reason people do not like to serve under the British Government. At present the number of Punjabis and Nepaulese is the largest in the native army. But the people of the North-Western Provinces, where the oppression of the English at the time of the mutiny had been greatest, are reluctant to enter the military service. Under these circumstances, if respectable and educated natives are requested to form regiments with men whom they know, and if all the privileges enjoyed by the English officers are conferred upon those native gentlemen, the martial spirit will become as strong in Indians as ever. The writer is glad that a very high officer in the Military Department has recommended the formation of native regiments with natives for officers.

68. A correspondent writing to the *Samaya*, of the 18th May, says that 25 low caste families in Atiya in Rampurhat are in so great want that they can scarcely get any food. There are 16 families of Mahomedans in Bholladanga. They are, with the single exception of Shafi Sheikh, fasting for want of food. Respectable Mahomedan females would rather die than beg or work for gain. Not only are the low class people, but respectable Mahomedan females also are in want.

SAMAYA,
May 18th, 1885.

SAMAYA,
May 18th, 1895.

69. A correspondent writing from Rayer Kati to the same paper says that when the steamer *Lord Ripon* belonging to the Tagore family of Calcutta stopped at Akaipore, and when the boats were carrying passengers to the bank, in came the steamer named *Perozepore* of the Flotilla Company ran over one of the boats which sank with the passengers. No efforts were made to save life. Three passengers are missing. A case has been instituted in Bagirhat.

The Flotilla Company.

SAMAYA.

70. A correspondent writing to the same paper says that the condition of Jagannathpore in the Nakasipara thana in Nuddea is extremely wretched. The scarcity of water during the hot season is very great.

Famine in Jagannathpore.

SAMAYA.

71. The same paper says that the English are doing their best to win the Amir over to their side. But they never listen to the people of the country which is the object of contention. They still distrust the natives, and consider them as inferiors. This distrust of natives is not due to the natives themselves, nor to Government, but to a small number of narrow-minded Englishmen. The Editor of the *Pioneer* newspaper stands at the head of these men. The natives have applied for enrolment as volunteers, and the *Pioneer* is doing its best to thwart them. Are the 220 millions of natives responsible for the mutiny of a handful of Sepoys? The sepoys indeed rose against the English, because they thought them to be destroyers of caste and religion. But a large number of natives sacrificed their lives for the English and fought against their own countrymen. The English have brought the natives from darkness to light. But the subjects of Native States are still groping in darkness. They have not yet been able to partake of the improvements of the nineteenth century. Still the subjects of native States are happy and cheerful, while British subjects are not so. What is the reason of this difference? Why did the country express so much sorrow at the departure of Lord Ripon? Is it because the natives are undeserving of confidence? The English should not distrust natives. They should give the natives what those that come to light from darkness desire.

Distrust of natives.

SURABHI,
May 19th, 1885.

72. The *Surabhi*, of the 19th May, says that the *Madras Mail* has advocated the appointment of natives to high offices in the army. The writer says that if English papers advocate the cause of natives like the *Madras Mail*, the reverence of Indians for Englishmen will know no bounds.

Advocacy of the cause of natives by Englishmen and reverence of Indians for the English.

SURABHI.

73. The same paper is glad that the Octroi Committee has come to the conclusion that Octroi duties should not be levied in Calcutta, and that the municipality agrees with the decision of the Committee.

The Octroi duties.

SURABHI.

74. The same paper says that the *Pioneer* states that a war with Russia will cost one hundred crores of rupees. If India has to pay the whole of these expenses, her poverty will reach its extreme limits. The writer hopes that this danger may be averted.

The cost of war with Russia.

SURABHI.

75. The same paper says that the Lieutenant-Governor has come down to Calcutta at the order of the Supreme Government to devise means for the reduction of expenditure. The writer says that one of the best means of reducing expenditure is to appoint natives on smaller salaries to posts now held by Englishmen. But the writer does not think that the anti-native Lieutenant-Governor will venture to dismiss Englishmen if necessary, but will dismiss natives in crowds. The salaries also of natives only will be reduced. Lord Dufferin should see that such partiality to Englishmen may not be shown by the Bengal Government.

The Lieutenant-Governor and reduction of expenditure.

SURASHI
May 19th, 1885.

76. The same paper says that it is stated that Lord Dufferin is in favour of the enrolment of natives as volunteers. But there are the members of his Council, the Provincial Governors, and above all the anti-native Sir Rivers Thompson. Sir Rivers Thompson has said that natives should not be enrolled as volunteers at present when there is such hostility between them and Anglo-Indians. The writer cannot say to what extent the Viceroy will be able to act according to his own judgment in spite of the hostile opinions of these men.

Lord Dufferin and the enrolment of natives as volunteers.

77. The *Dainik*, of the 20th May, publishes a letter bearing four signatures, in which it is stated that Eroali and other villages under the Khargram thana in the Kandi sub-division of Moorshedabad are in great distress. The people were up to this time expecting aid either from Government or from wealthy men in the locality, but their expectations have not yet been fulfilled.

Distress in Khargram.

DAINIK,
May 20th, 1885.

78. The same paper says that the Government placed Rs. 20,000 in the hands of the Road Cess Committee of Burdwan for famine relief. The greater number of the members of the Committee desired to spend the money in re-excavating old and silted up tanks. But the Magistrate was against the proposal, and so, by hook or by crook, he carried his point. The members wanted to reconsider the subject, and on reconsideration they gained the victory over him. Though defeated at the meeting he says that he understands the policy of Government better, and that Government will never act contrary to his wishes. The writer thinks that Mr. Coxhead should loyally carry out the policy of the Committee of which he is a member. The man who does not understand official loyalty and official discipline should not be allowed to preside over such Committees. The writer waits to see what the Lieutenant-Governor does.

The Collector of Burdwan.

DAINIK,

79. The *Samvād Prabhākar*, of the 20th May, hears that that portion only of the Suburban Municipality which is inhabited by Europeans will be united with Calcutta. This will be disadvantageous to both the municipalities. The suburbs will lose the most paying portion of its area, and will be in no position to make adequate sanitary improvements for the rest with its reduced income. While what Calcutta will have to pay for the improvements of the amalgamated area will not be met from the income derivable therefrom. The suburbs will soon be reduced to a very insanitary condition, and cholera, for the prevention of which the amalgamation has been proposed, will again make its appearance.

The amalgamation of the Calcutta and Suburban Municipalities.

SAMVAD PRABHAKAR,
May 20th, 1885.

80. The *Prabhāti*, of the 21st May, says that the system of farming the cattle pounds in the mofussil to the highest bidders has indeed increased the revenue derivable therefrom, but it has opened a door to oppression. The farmers of pounds in the vicinity of Kishnagore have encouraged the local *budmashes* to bring animals to them. The people of Kishnagore have been put to great trouble, poor people are being constantly fined. The writer asks the local authorities to have an eye on these farmers.

Cattle pounds in the mofussil.

PRABHATI,
May 21st, 1885.

81. The *Samvād Prabhākar*, of the 21st May, says that Sir Rivers Thompson is a friend of agriculture. He has established an Agricultural Department in Bengal, and has recently published a resolution as to the future proceedings of the Department. The undertaking seems to be an expensive one. But the writer is of opinion that it will produce no good result. The collection of agricultural statistics is of course desirable, but experiments made in European fashion and with European instruments are not

The Agricultural Department in Bengal.

SAMVAD PRABHAKAR,
May 21st, 1885.

likely to produce good results. The writer thinks that the establishment of an agricultural college in which students of higher castes might receive practical training from experienced agriculturists would be of greater use than the establishment of the Department.

DAINIK,
May 22nd, 1885.

82. The *Dainik*, of the 22nd May, publishes a letter, authenticated by three signatures, in which the signatories complain that some of the villages to the west of Burdwan are suffering not only from a severe scarcity, but also from a virulent outbreak of cholera. Fifty persons have been carried off in the village of Galsi alone. The writers ask whether Government will give any medical relief to these villages.

DAINIK.

83. Baboo Khagendra Nidhan Palit, writing to the same paper from Dhamasil in Hugli, complains that the villages between the stations of Khanyan and Pandua are suffering badly from the effects of the scarcity of water. People cannot get water even to wash their utensils.

DAINIK.

84. Baboo Satyanand Sharma, writing to the same paper, complains of the want of a registration office at Balia Kandi in the sub-division of Goalundo. People have to go to Goalundo to get their deeds registered. Applications were made to the Magistrate of Faridpore for establishing a sub-registration office, but in vain. There is a post office here, but it has only one peon. Covers are not therefore delivered in time.

SAMVAD BAHKA,
April 30th, 1885.

85. The *Samvād Bāhikā*, of the 30th April, strongly urges that the Government of India should grant the petition of those of the natives of India, who want to enrol themselves as Volunteers.

UTKAL DARPAN,
May 5th, 1885.

86. Its contemporary of the *Utkal Darpan* has the following on the same subject:—

Natives as Volunteers.
“Now, as regards this Volunteer movement, we should like to know why it is discouraged. The first movement of this kind was made in Lord Canning's time by some young Bengalee gentlemen, and if our memory serves us right, it fell through because the movers insisted upon having a uniform which would indicate their nationality as distinguished from that of Europeans and Eurasians. No concession, however, could be made on this point to native feeling, simply because Government sought an excuse to escape from the dilemma in which it had been placed by reason of the movement. And what was that dilemma? If Bengalee gentlemen were allowed to enlist themselves as Volunteers, how could the privilege be withheld from the Marhatta and the Rajput gentry? Bengalees might be cowards, but that could not be said of the Marhattas and Rajputs. Then there were also the other warrior races of India to be taken into account. Native loyalty has, however, passed into a proverb, and Government would do well not to distrust it. So long as India is governed in a true Christian spirit, no fear need be entertained that any risk is run in gratifying legitimate native aspirations.”

SEBAKA,
May 6th, 1885.

87. Its contemporary of the *Sebaka* makes the following remarks in connection with the loyalty of the Native Press :—

The *Englishman* of last Wednesday contained a paragraph criticising the tone of the Native Press, which, to us, appeared very uncharitable and injudicious. Our contemporary does not believe that the Native

Press, though at the present moment professing to be very loyal, is really so at heart. This insinuation of our contemporary is contemptible in its nature, and we would do well to pass it over in silence. Let us simply point out to our contemporary that the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* is neither the representative of the Native Press, nor are its utterances to be regarded as the utterances of that press."

88. The *Utkal Dipika* is of opinion that those of the constables of the Police Department who use opium, wine, or any other intoxicating drugs should be removed

The Police.

from that department, because their small salaries not being sufficient for their expenses, they are often tempted to commit crimes. As an instance, it quotes the example of a police constable in the Balasore town, who was convicted of theft and punished accordingly.

89. Referring to the Commission appointed in connection with the revision of the salaries of ministerial officers serving under Government, the *Utkal Darpan*

The Salaries Commission.

observes that the claims of the ministerial officers serving in the civil courts of Bengal should not be overlooked in any way. They are as hard-working and industrious as those serving in the Revenue Department.

90. The *Sebaka*, of the 6th May, speaks of the Sikh soldiers sent to Egypt in the following terms:—

The Sikh soldiers sent to Egypt.

"Our readers are aware that an Indian Contingent under General Hudson proceeded to Egypt a few months ago. Near Suakim the Contingent was suddenly attacked by the Arabs in large numbers, who had concealed themselves in bushes round the place. The fight was so sudden and severe that a large number of British officers ran the risk of losing their lives. During the contest 'the 15th Sikhs stood like a rock and greatly pleased the Chief, and as a compliment to its gallantry, it will be brigaded with the Guards on the occasion of the next fight.' To us the valour of the Sikhs is an object of just pride and great hope, for we know that our Sikh soldiers will be our right hand in the event of a war breaking out between India and Russia. We ought to recognise the merit of our brave soldiers in some substantial shape."

Anonymous communications.

91. The same paper has the following under the head of "Anonymous communications:—"

SEBAKA.

"Anonymous communications have become the order of the day. Directly you execute an order which affects injuriously the interests of some one or other, a large number of anonymous communications, attacking your position and character, are either forwarded to the press or to the superior authorities under whom you serve. Whether such communications avail or not, the nameless scribblers enjoy the treat exceedingly. Unfortunately this malevolent phase of native character is being developed much to the detriment of its solid growth, and we wait for a better time, when this will be checked altogether. Those that hold responsible posts under Government will bear testimony to our remark. To them the disposal of such communications is a great nuisance. It may be that anonymous communications may have certain grains of truth in them, but oftentimes Government attach to them too much importance by instituting inquiries on the subject of complaints noted therein. The press is oftentimes troubled by the communications of anonymous writers, and some of the editors of newspapers in Orissa are known to take great pleasure in giving

UTKAL DIPIKA,
May 2nd, 1885.

UTKAL DARPAN,
May 5th 1885.

SEBAKA,
May 6th, 1885.

them publicity in their correspondence columns. We wish these nameless scribblers were made to imbibe better notions of morality, and assume plainer garbs in dealing with their opponents."

PRADIPI AND
SHIKHYABANDHU,
May 1st 85.

92. There is nothing worth reporting from these monthly papers, which generally devote their columns to miscellaneous subjects.

RAJKRISHNA MUKHOPADHYAYA, M.A. & B.L.,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,

The 23rd May 1885.